

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 04001 301614Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7514
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 4001

EXDIS

RIO DE JANEIRO PASS USDEL SECRETARY

FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: BRITISH RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSED NEGOTIATING
STRATEGY

REF: STATE 081715

1. I AM THOROUGHLY CONFUSED BY REFTEL. CABLE REPRESENTS
SERIOUS BACKPEDDLING ON THE PART OF THE U.K. OR GROSS
MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE WILL OF THE FRONTLINE AND THE
GENERAL SCENE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WHAT IS MEANT BY,
"IF THE U.S. AGREE, WE SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE
FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS AND ALL THE PARTIES
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 04001 301614Z

THAT THIS
WILL BE THE BASIS OF THE MEETING AND WE WILL NOT ACCEPT
TERMS OF REFERENCE LIMITED ONLY TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN
PROPOSALS, FOR TO DO THIS WOULD MAKE ATTENDANCE
VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE SALISBURY TALKERS."?
THE FRONTLINE HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY ARE
PREPARED TO MOVE FORWARD BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES

OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL.

2. PARA B. REFTL. THE PLACE OF THE MEETING.
THE NOTION OF MEETING JUST INSIDE RHODESIA OR
ON THE BRIDGE BETWEEN RHODESIA/AMBIA IS EITHER
A JOKE OR A SARDONIC NEGOTIATING POSITION.

3. PARA. D REFTL. I AM CERTAIN THAT IT IS NOT
NECESSARY TO SEND JOHNNY GRAHAM AND STEVE LOW
TO MAPUTO AND SALISBURY TO ESTABLISH A 'DATE AND
PLACE' FOR A MEETING. I BELIEVE THOSE SPECIFICS
CAN BE AGREED UPON ONCE THE U.K. AND U.S. INDI-
CATE OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS OF THE MEETING
LAID OUT BY THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS IN DAR ES
SALAAM: NAMELY THAT THE U.K. AND U.S. AGREE TO
OUR OWN PROPOSAL AND THUS AGREE TO PROCEED BASED
ON THE PRINCIPLES OF THE A.A.P.

4. PARA. 3A AND 3B. REFTL CERTAINLY ARE NOT THE
MOST RELEVANT PASSAGES OF OWEN'S PILGRAM SPEECH.

5. COMMENT. I THINK IT IMPORTANT THAT THIS
CONFUSION NOT WORK ITS WAY INTO THE PRESIDENT'S
SPEECH OR DISCUSSION IN LAGOS. END COMMENT.
EASUM

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